

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/659,964

Applicant(s)

SAKAKIMA ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

TAN X. DINH

2653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith, (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/14/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 60-63 (renumber as 1-4).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/603,072.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

TAN Xuan DINH
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2653

1) The amendment filed 7/14/2005 is acknowledged. Claims 1-59 have been canceled.

2) Claims 60-63 are allowed.


A recording/reproducing apparatus comprising a first magnetic head for recording a signal onto a recording medium and a second magnetic head for reproducing the signal recorded on the recording medium wherein the first magnetic head comprises a first substrate, a first magnetic head core provided on the first substrate, having a first magnetic gap, a coil provided in such a manner that at least a portion of the first magnetic head core is surrounded by the coil, wherein the first magnetic head core is provided in such a manner that a thickness direction of the first magnetic head core around the first magnetic gap is substantially the same as a track width direction of the recording medium and the second magnetic head comprises a second substrate, a second magnetic head core provided on the second substrate having a second magnetic gap a first magneto-resistance device provided on the second magnetic head core, wherein the first magneto-resistance device comprises an insulating layer provided on the second magnetic head core and a pinned layer provided on a side opposite to the second magnetic, head core of the insulating layer, wherein a magnetization direction is not easily rotated in the pinned layer, wherein the

second magnetic head core comprises a soft magnetic layer provided at a position corresponding to the second insulating layer and the soft magnetic layer functions as a free layer of the first magnetoresistance device, wherein a magnetization direction is easily rotated in the free layer, as recited in the independent claims, are not found or suggested in the prior art of record.

3) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Primary Examiner TAN X. DINH whose telephone number is (571)273-8300. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov/>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


TAN DINH
PRIMARY EXAMINER
July 25, 2005